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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 182
By Koella

A RESOLUTION to designate the Washington Avenue Viaduct in Maryville as the "Veterans Memorial Bridge."

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, hundreds of thousands of brave American men and women have served their country in the armed forces and many continue this legacy of service today, defending the most inviolate principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, this meritorious service continues the time-honored tradition of Tennessee volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, from Valley Forge to Bosnia, to the present war-torn lands of Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East, our armed forces have unselfishly paid the price of freedom for their friends and families, and for all of us; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor those courageous men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives to preserve the blessed freedoms we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the intrepid and valiant members of the United States armed forces have continued to inspire our confidence, loyalty and support; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Avenue Viaduct is a highly visible and heavily traveled bridge in Maryville, Tennessee; and

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WHEREAS, this bridge has been a highlight of many parades and public events honoring veterans and other citizens since its origin; and

WHEREAS, the United Veterans of Blount County is comprised of all veterans organizations and auxiliaries in Blount County, and is duly chartered by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 10,800 veterans living in Blount County, accounting for over 12% of the county's total population; and

WHEREAS, the Blount County Commission, the United Veterans of Blount County, and various other citizens of the Maryville community feel that the name of a certain bridge should honor and recognize all those brave sons and daughters of Blount County who sacrificed their liberty, and in many instances their lives, so that we might enjoy the many bounties of democracy and the American way of life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Washington Avenue Viaduct on State Route 35 in Maryville in Blount County is hereby designated as the "Veterans Memorial Bridge" in honor of the many veterans from Blount County who have served their country from the American Revolution to Bosnia, or who in the future may serve their country in times of war and peace.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such viaduct in Maryville as the "Veterans Memorial Bridge".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.